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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,183	09/11/2003	Sebastien Perrot	PF020113	5791
24498 7590 05/17/2007 JOSEPH J. LAKS, VICE PRESIDENT THOMSON LICENSING LLC PATENT OPERATIONS PO BOX 5312 PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312			EXAMINER TSEGAYE, SABA	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/17/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,183

Applicant(s)

PERROT ET AL.

Examiner

Saba Tsegaye

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 02/06/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 3, lines 30-31, in the detailed description of the drawings, the *Access Point* is labeled as #23, which does not match the corresponding number in the drawing (see fig. 2).

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1 and 14 is objected to because of the following informalities: it has been held that the recitation that an element is “**adapted to**” perform a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison*, 69 USPQ 138.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-6 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Volpano (US 2003/0120763 A1).

Volpano discloses a method for connecting a device (16, 18) to a wireless network; characterized, at the level of a bridge device (12) adapted to interface with the wireless network (see fig. 1), by the steps of:

- detecting a connection between the device and the bridge device (0035;0038; 0043);
- determining an address for the device and for the bridge device (0047);
- have the bridge device separately register, with the respective addresses, the device and itself as wireless devices on the wireless network (0047-0053).

Regarding claim 2, Volpano discloses the method wherein the addresses are MAC addresses (0050).

Regarding claim 3, Volpano discloses the method further comprising the step of having the bridge device monitor traffic on the wireless network for the device (see fig. 1).

Regarding claim 4, Volpano discloses the method further comprising the step of programming packet filters for packets having as destination address the address of the device, and upon detection of such a packet, acknowledging receipt of the packet in place of the device (0047).

Regarding claim 5 and 6, Volpano discloses the method further comprising at least one of the following steps: forwarding all multicast packet on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device; forwarding all broadcast packets detected on the wireless network

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from the bridge device to the connected device; forwarding unicast packets on the wireless network having as destination the address of the connected device to that device (0028; 0072).

Regarding claims 10-13, Volpano discloses the method wherein the wireless network is of the IEEE 802.11 type, further comprising the step of maintaining a single management information base for both bridge device and the connected device (0070).

5. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9 and 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bender et al (WO 00/18066).

Regarding claim 1, Bender discloses a method for connecting a device (40) to a wireless network; characterized, at the level of a bridge device (42) adapted to interface with the wireless network (see fig. 4), by the steps of:

- detecting a connection between the device and the bridge device (page 8, lines 1-25);
- determining an address for the device and for the bridge device (page 11, lines 3-5);
- have the bridge device separately register, with the respective addresses, the device and itself as wireless devices on the wireless network (page 9, lines 7-12).

Regarding claim 2, Bender discloses the method wherein the addresses are MAC addresses (page 9, line 31; page 10, lines 13-20).

Regarding claim 3, Bender discloses the method further comprising the step of having the bridge device monitor traffic on the wireless network for the device (see fig. 4)

Regarding claim 5, Bender discloses the method further comprising at least one of the following steps: forwarding all multicast packet on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device; forwarding all broadcast packets detected on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device; forwarding unicast packets on the wireless network having as destination the address of the connected device to that device (page 5, lines 6-20).

Regarding claims 7-9, Bender discloses the method where the connection between the device and the bridge device is an Ethernet connection, and wherein the step of detecting the connection comprises monitoring packets on the Ethernet connection for detecting a previously unknown source address of an Ethernet device (page 6, lines 8-14).

Regarding claim 14, Bender discloses bridge device (42) adapted for communication for communication on a wireless network (56) and for connection of a first device (40) not having wireless communication capability (Ethernet connection), the bridge device comprising:

means for determining an address of the first device and of the bridge device (page 11, lines 3-5);

means for carrying out two separate device registrations on the wireless network, one for the bridge device, and one for the first device, using respective addresses (page 9, lines 7-12).

6. Claims 1 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Meier (US 2003/0112767 A1).

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Meier discloses a method for connecting a device (118, 119) to a wireless network; characterized, at the level of a bridge device (115, 117) adapted to interface with the wireless network (see fig. 2), by the steps of:

detecting a connection between the device and the bridge device (0036; 0039; 0055);
determining an address for the device and for the bridge device (0048; 0055-0056);
have the bridge device separately register, with the respective addresses, the device and itself as wireless devices on the wireless network (0062).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Trainin (US 2003/0235170 A1) discloses a method and system for distributed access points for wireless local area network.

Bailey et al. (US 7,167,470 B2) discloses a method and apparatus for locating a communication device using local area network switch information.

Spearman (US 2003/0051170 A1) discloses a secure and seamless wireless public domain wide area network and method of using the same.

Brederveld et al. (US 5,898,679) discloses wireless relay with selective message repeat and method of operation thereof.

Bud et al. (US 5,598,407) discloses a cordless local area network having a fixed central control device.


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saba Tsegaye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi H. Pham can be reached on (571) 272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ST
May 9, 2007


CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

5/10/07